

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 4/2
(SECOND REVISION)

PRIORITY LIST OF CRITICAL NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES

(Revised 8/4/53, SECRET)

In accordance with DCID 4/1, paragraph 3, the following list in order of priority of critical national intelligence objectives, with respect to the USSR and its Satellites (including Communist China) is established; so the highest priority shall be given to the collection of information and to the production of intelligence concerning Soviet and Satellite capabilities and intentions for:

1. taking direct military action against the Continental United States;
2. taking direct military action, employing USSR and Satellite Armed Forces, against vital U.S. possessions, areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit, and Western Europe;
3. conducting clandestine attack by mass destruction weapons against the Continental United States, vital U.S. possessions, areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit, and Western Europe;
4. interfering with U.S. strategic air attack;
5. interfering with U.S. movement of men and material by water transport;
6. production and stockpiling, including location of installations and facilities, of atomic and related weapons, other critical weapons and equipment, and critical transportation equipment;
7. creating situations anywhere in the world dangerous to U.S. national security, short of commitment of Soviet and Satellite Armed Forces, including foreign directed sabotage and espionage objectives;
8. interfering with U.S. political, psychological and economic courses of action for the achievement of critical U.S. aims and objectives.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director of Central Intelligence

(Note: DCID 4/2 was issued 28 September 1950 and first revised 12 June 1952)

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Approved For Release 2002/11/18 : CIA-RDP86B01053R000100010008-6

Approved For Release 2002/11/18 : CIA-RDP86B01053R000100010008-6